



August 2009

## Spokane-Pend Oreille COUNTY FSA

### Spokane Pend Oreille County FSA

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**Pend Oreille County Producers for which 447 is a local call can dial 447-4216 for a toll free call.**

#### Office Hours

Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

#### County Committee

Jim Ryan, Chairman  
Charlotte Yergens, Vice-Chair  
Regina Clausen, Member  
Louise (Lou) McLam, Member  
Larry Cordes, Member

#### Office Staff

Randy L. Primmer, CED  
[randy.primmer@wa.usda.gov](mailto:randy.primmer@wa.usda.gov)  
Lorri Anderson, PT  
Kay Kjack, PT  
Betty Diedesch, PT  
Dave Olson, PT  
Connie Klein, Temp  
Martha Dorsey, COT

#### Farm Loan Staff

Steven King, FLM  
[steve.king@wa.usda.gov](mailto:steve.king@wa.usda.gov)  
Chris Sletager, FLO  
Jo Anne Krupke, FLT

#### Next COC Meeting

Sept. 17, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m.

FSA/USDA National Website:

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/>

Washington State FSA Site  
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/wa>

#### Important Deadlines:

August 14

- Acreage Reporting Deadline
- DCP and ACRE Sign up Deadline
- Pulse Crop Acreage Base Establishment Deadline



### JUDY OLSON NAMED STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Judy Olson of Garfield Washington has been appointed as the State Executive Director of the Washington State Farm Service Agency. Judy begins her appointment August 3, 2009.

### ACREAGE REPORTING DATE EXTENDED TO AUGUST 14

If you have not already reported your crop acreage for 2009 the deadline was extended to August 14. Acreage reporting is required for participation in nearly all of the programs administered by FSA. Call for an appointment to complete this requirement.

### DCP – ACRE SIGNUP ENDS AUGUST 14

DCP and ACRE Program signups end on August 14. Producers who are interested in participation in ACRE are encouraged to start well before that date for the election and signup process. There are two steps that must be completed to participate in ACRE. First, all producers on the farm must “elect” the ACRE program in writing on form CCC-509 ACRE. After these signatures are obtained, then producer may “sign up” for ACRE. All signatures must be returned or postmarked by Friday, August 14, 2009.

### ACRE PROGRAM - EDUCATE YOURSELF OR ASK FOR HELP

Need help deciding on ACRE? The “ACRE Calculator” is available on-line at [www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dcp) and will help you estimate ACRE benefits and compares ACRE with DCP payments. Assistance is available at our offices in using the calculator if you have questions. Fact sheets and other information are also available on the web site.

FSA employees have heard the statement “I’m not going to participate in ACRE because it is too complicated and I do not understand it”. While the decision lies with the producers involved, it is still every producer’s responsibility to make sure they are educated so that an informed decision can be made as to whether the ACRE program fits their operation. With market prices for many program crops on a down trend, ACRE deserves at least one last look. ACRE payments can be very substantial in cases where either price or yield or both are below normal.

### AVERAGE CROP REVENUE ELECTION (ACRE) PROVISIONS

Participation in the 2009 ACRE program is voluntary and is made on a per farm election. Once the election is made it remains with the farm for the rest of the farm bill (through Sept 30, 2012). This is an individual decision based on each farm’s yield and what you feel the price of grain or pulse crops will do in the next couple of years which helps to determine if you will receive ACRE payments or not on the farm.

### PULSE CROP BASE ESTABLISHMENT

With the 2008 Farm Bill, pulse crops are now a covered commodity and are eligible to possibly receive counter cyclical or ACRE payments. Pulse crops include Dry peas, Lentils and Large and Small Chickpeas. Our office has worked up the pulse crop base acres eligible for addition onto your current farm and has either called the operator or has mailed the documents to the operator to get the required signatures to add the pulse crop base acreage. Farms will receive a direct yield of 692 pounds per acre for lentils and 1384 pounds per acre for peas. Counter cyclical yields can be proven if you so desire. All elections have to be returned by August 14, 2009 or the farm will be defaulted to option 2. All approved DCP contracts will be required to be revised to include the new pulse CAB’s and the operator and all owners whose CAB’s changed must sign the revised contract.

### LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

Signup for the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) began on July 13, 2009 for losses to eligible livestock that died due to eligible disaster conditions. The deadline to apply for losses suffered in calendar year 2008 is September 13, 2009. Losses for 2009 that occurred prior to July 13, 2009 must be filed by September 13, 2009. Losses suffered after July 13, 2009 must be filed within 30 days of when the loss is apparent. Losses suffered must be in excess of normal

mortality rates as determined by FSA. Eligible disaster conditions include blizzards, extreme cold, extreme heat, floods, wildfires and disease. Producers should contract the county office for details on the program.

### **2010 CROP NON-INSURED ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NAP) DEADLINES**

The final date for filing a 2010 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) application for coverage for most perennial crops (grass seed, hay, and rangeland) is September 30, 2009. The deadline for Value Loss Crops and nursery plus fall seeded Mustard is August 31, 2009. Tree fruit and berries have an application for coverage closing date of November 20, 2009. Spring seeded crops have an application for coverage closing date of March 15, 2010. The cost is \$250 per crop with a maximum of \$750 per county or \$1875 in multiple counties.

Please remember to report all crop losses within 15 days of the date of the disaster event or within 15 days from when the loss becomes apparent. Also, for u-pick crops if you feel you might have a loss and you have completed a notice of loss you are required to notify us when harvest is complete to have an appraisal completed on the u-pick commodity to determine if salable commodities remain unpicked.

### **NAP & CROP INSURANCE LINKAGE REQUIREMENT**

To be eligible for crop disaster benefits under the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payment Program (SURE), producers are required to have NAP coverage on all non-insurable crops of economic significance and Federal Crop Insurance on all insurable crops of economic significance. The following are Sales Closing Dates for crops in Spokane County:

August 31 for Canola and September 30 for all wheat, winter barley and winter peas. March 15, 2010 is the deadline for spring barley, oats, peas, and lentils.

Livestock producers are also reminded to obtain NAP coverage on their rangeland and other grazing crops to remain eligible for the Livestock Forage Disaster Program and the Emergency Assistance for Livestock and Honey bee programs.

### **ANNUAL PAYMENT LIMITATION NOTIFICATION**

A number of significant revisions were made to Payment Limitation (PL) rules as a result of the 2008 Farm Bill. Payments for all new contracts and programs approved after this passage date are now "directly attributed" to the natural person(s) ultimately responsible for payment shares. For example, in a corporation, with two 50% members, each individual stockholder is "attributed" their share of the corporations program earnings, and the total of all payments attributed cannot be in excess of the payment limitation for the applicable program. The above example shows the "attribution" to the members but the corporation itself also has an applicable program limitation that cannot be exceeded. For those CRP contracts approved prior to October 1, 2008, the contracts remain under the previous PL rules and eligibility forms for those payments continue to be governed by the filing of form CCC-502.

#### **Payment Limitations for programs are as follows:**

Direct Payment under DCP and ACRE is \$40,000	Counter Cyclical and ACRE payments \$65,000
Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) is \$100,000	EQUIP is \$300,000      CRP is \$50,000
Disaster including SURE, ELAP, LFP & LIP is \$100,000	

Actively engaged determinations are still required to participate in most programs, requiring a contribution of a combination of land/capital or equipment to meet "left hand" and labor and/or management to meet "right hand" contributions. Landowner exemptions still apply to producers who share rent their land, making them actively engaged on share rented land without further contributions needed. A tenant cash-renting land must meet cash-rent tenant eligibility, by providing either active personal labor, or a combination of management and equipment to be actively engaged on cash-rented land. New eligibility forms are required for 2009 and these forms must be in place prior to issuing payments.

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